Malabar, a Malaya-returned fish expert, requesting for permission for experimental fishing in a portion of the rivulets of the Baliapatam river as per the "Malayan method" of fishing; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—"(a) The answer is in the affirmative.

"(b) The Director of Industries and Commerce to whom the petition was forwarded for suitable action has reported that the request of the petitioner cannot be granted as it is detrimental to the interests of stakenet fishermen in Malabar district."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—"There are rivulets in the Malabar district other than the rivulets of the Baliapatam river. As the adoption of the Malayan method of fishing in them will be more profitable and as more fish can be hauled even when there are high tides, will the Government be pleased to reconsider and see how far it can be adopted without affecting the interests of stakenet fishermen?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—"I would suggest to the hon. Member to put a separate question."

Policy of Prohibition

* 938 Q.—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(a) whether the State Government have received any communication from the Government of India calling for their views on the policy of Prohibition; and

(b) if so, the reply sent by this Government?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—"(a) No, Sir.

"(b) Does not arise."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—"Have not the Central Government appointed a committee to go into the question of Prohibition? If I remember right, that Central Government Committee sat in this State also. Did not this Government receive any request to communicate their opinion to that committee or to the Central Government?"

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—"Recently the Planning Commission appointed a committee to study the subject in all its aspects. There was some discussion with the members of that committee, but it was only an informal discussion. No communication as such was received from the Government of India."